

2022 Legislative Session

Josh Garrison

Associate Commissioner for Legislation and Program Implementation

Thursday, December 9, 2021

2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

2022 SESSION OVERVIEW



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

2022 SESSION OVERVIEW

- ▶ The legislative session began on November 23, 2021 with Organization Day.
- ▶ The Senate and House will reconvene January 3.
- ▶ Session is scheduled to adjourn Sine Die by March 14.
- ▶ Our weekly updates will start on January 17.



2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

COMMISSION AGENDA BILL



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

COMMISSION AGENDA BILL

The Commission's 2022 legislative agenda includes two items:

- ▶ Convert the Commission's student teaching stipends to traditional scholarships
- ▶ Update Indiana Code language to account for the upcoming Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) changes



STIPENDS TO SCHOLARSHIPS

- ▶ The Commission administers two stipend programs which provide funding to student teachers:
 - ▶ Student Teaching Stipend for High-Need Fields
 - ▶ Earline S. Rogers Student Teaching Stipend for Minorities
- ▶ Each program provides up to \$4,000 and students receive the funding directly from the Commission.
- ▶ The amount of the stipend depends on a student's financial need and the Commission awards roughly 200 stipends per year.

STIPENDS TO SCHOLARSHIPS

- ▶ The stipend programs are administratively burdensome for the Commission and the recipients.
- ▶ Students must apply via ScholarTrack and submit a FAFSA for the Commission to determine need.
- ▶ Students must then become a “vendor” for the Commission to send the funding directly to them.
- ▶ To become a vendor, students submit a W9 and a direct deposit form to the Commission.

STIPENDS TO SCHOLARSHIPS

- ▶ Requiring students to complete a W9 and direct deposit form causes confusion as students do not submit these forms for any other financial aid.
- ▶ Students often make mistakes on these forms which delays awarding funds and increases the administrative burden.
- ▶ Annually, Commission staff spends more than 40 hours responding to phone calls/emails, reviewing the W9/direct deposit forms, sending forms back for corrections and tracking the process through the Auditor of State.
- ▶ Students often do not receive their direct deposit until the middle of the semester.

FAFSA LANGUAGE UPDATE

- ▶ The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 made significant changes to simplify the financial aid process.
- ▶ The changes will take effect with the 2024-2025 FAFSA which opens October 1, 2023.
- ▶ These changes include changing the term “Expected Family Contribution” to “Student Aid Index.”
- ▶ The proposed change would update all mentions of the “Expected Family Contribution” to “federal needs calculation” to prevent the need for future updates.

SENIOR FAFSA COMPLETION

As of December 1, 2021	Class of 2021	Class of 2022	% Difference
FAFSAs Completed	21,388	21,293	-.4%
FAFSAs Completed – Pell Eligible	7,856	6,647	-15.3%
FAFSAs Completed – 0 EFC	3,919	3,487	-11%

FAFSA RENEWALS

As of December 1, 2021	2021-22	2022-23	% Difference
FAFSAs Completed	52,481	34,072	-35.1%
FAFSAs Completed – Pell Eligible	27,310	16,073	-41%
FAFSAs Completed – 0 EFC	20,625	12,123	-41.2%



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION